From: Robert Poreda
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Antritrust Case

From:

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The proposed settlement allowing MS to give a large sum of money, product and services to the educational market will only serve to strengthen the Microsoft monopoly. This proposal tells independent software developers that here is another market segment we will lose, courtesy of the Department of Justice.

I'm trying to start an internet hosting company. At the outset, I'm running into sites that either strongly recommend the use of the MS internet browser or fail to show properly when accessed by Netscape 6. Some sites developed by MS products are completely inaccessable by other browser versions such as Netscape 4.x or Opera. Now, MS introduces their .Net program, which I understand will exacerbate the problem by creating more sites unusable by anything other than MS Explorer.

I was raised to keep my options open, to not put all my eggs into one basket. The United States has done just that with office services software and now appears to be doing the same with the internet. This aspect alone creates substantial vulnerability to our economy and technology, let alone the problems related to you regarding competitive markets and creativity.

Microsoft needs to be divided into at least two companies, and perhaps as much as four.